UNITED
NATIONS

CERD

International Convention
on the Elimination
of all Forms of
Racial Discrimination

Distr.
GENERAL

CERD/C/203/Add.1
20 February 1992

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Forty-first session

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 9 OF THE CONVENTION

Fourth periodic reports of States parties due in 1991

Addendum

MALDIVES*

[14 January 1992]

1. The Republic of Maldives has a small homogeneous population of 213,215 (1991) and the people are of the same ethnic origin, pursue the same religion (Islam) and speak the same language (Dhivehi). Hence no form of discrimination exists in the Maldives based on race or any other differences among the population. Therefore, no specific legislation is required to implement the provisions of the Convention.

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* The present report constitutes the third and fourth periodic reports of the Maldives, due on 24 May 1989 and 24 May 1991, respectively, and submitted in one document.

For the initial and second periodic report submitted by the Government of the Maldives and the summary records of the Committee at which those reports were considered, see:

Initial report - CERD/C/125/Add.1 (CERD/C/SR.838)

Second periodic report - CERD/C/152/Add.1 (CERD/C/SR.838).

GE.92-15290/3094H

2. The system of Government as expressed by the Constitution is republican, where supreme power is vested in the people and their elected representatives. The unicameral legislature is elected by universal franchise and all individuals aged 21 or older may participate in the political process and all eligible citizens may stand for election.

3. All citizens are granted equal rights by the Constitution of the Republic.

4. In addition to the application of the principles of social equality amongst its citizens, Maldives continues to condemn the policy of racial discrimination and support all measures for the total eradication of all forms of racial discrimination.

5. Although Maldives recognizes certain positive steps taken towards the elimination of racial discrimination in South Africa, it continues to condemn the racist regime and the policies of apartheid of South Africa. Maldives does not have diplomatic or trade relations with South Africa.

6. In order to demonstrate and to give effect to its policy of opposing racial discrimination, Maldives acceded to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination on 24 May 1984, to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid (1973) and to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948) on 24 April 1984.